

CLAIMS

1. A method of scanning comprising the steps of:
 - providing a scanning apparatus (10) having a
 - 5 scanning device (18) and a rotatable sample mount (14) whereby the scanning device and mount are relatively displaceable along the rotary axis (48) of the mount;
 - locating an article (22) on the sample mount such that a first part of the article is scannable by the
 - 10 scanning device (18);
 - scanning the first part of the article;
 - relatively displacing the article with respect to the scanning device whereby a second part of the article is scannable;
 - 15 noting the relative displacement between the article and the scanning device; and
 - scanning the second part.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein, the article
- 20 (22) is secured to a receptacle (40,140,240).
3. A method according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein, the receptacle (40,140,240) is mounted with respect to a slide (38,138,238).
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4. A method according to any preceding claim wherein, the article is composed of at least two separate parts (32A,32B,34) whereby during the scanning of the first part, a second part is removed from the receptacle.
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5. A scanner for the scanning of articles comprising:
 - a scanning apparatus (10) having a scanning device (18) and a rotatable sample mount (14,420) whereby, the scanning device and mount are relatively displaceable

along the rotary axis (48) of the mount;
a receptacle (40,140,240,400) mounted on the
sample mount, the receptacle being capable of securely
accommodating an article (30); and

5 an actuator (146,246) for linearly displacing the
receptacle whereby, actuation of the actuator displaces
the receptacle and any article secured thereto, with
respect to the sample mount.

10 6. A scanner according to claim 5 wherein, the
article is elongate and the displacement by the
actuator is along an axis defined by the elongate axis
of the elongate article.

15 7. A scanner according to claim 5 or claim 6 wherein,
the actuator is a micrometer (146).

8. A scanner according to any of claims 5-7 including
a measurement feature (50,60,146,246) which measures
20 relative positions of different parts of the article.

9. A scanner according to claim 9 wherein, the
measurement feature is a micrometer (146) or a set of
Vernier callipers (60).

25 10. A scanner according to claim 5 or 6 wherein, the
actuator is manual.

11. A scanner according to claim 5 or 6 wherein, the
30 actuator is automatic.

12. A scanner according to any of claims 5 to 11
wherein, the receptacle has a plurality of defined
positions with respect to the sample mount.